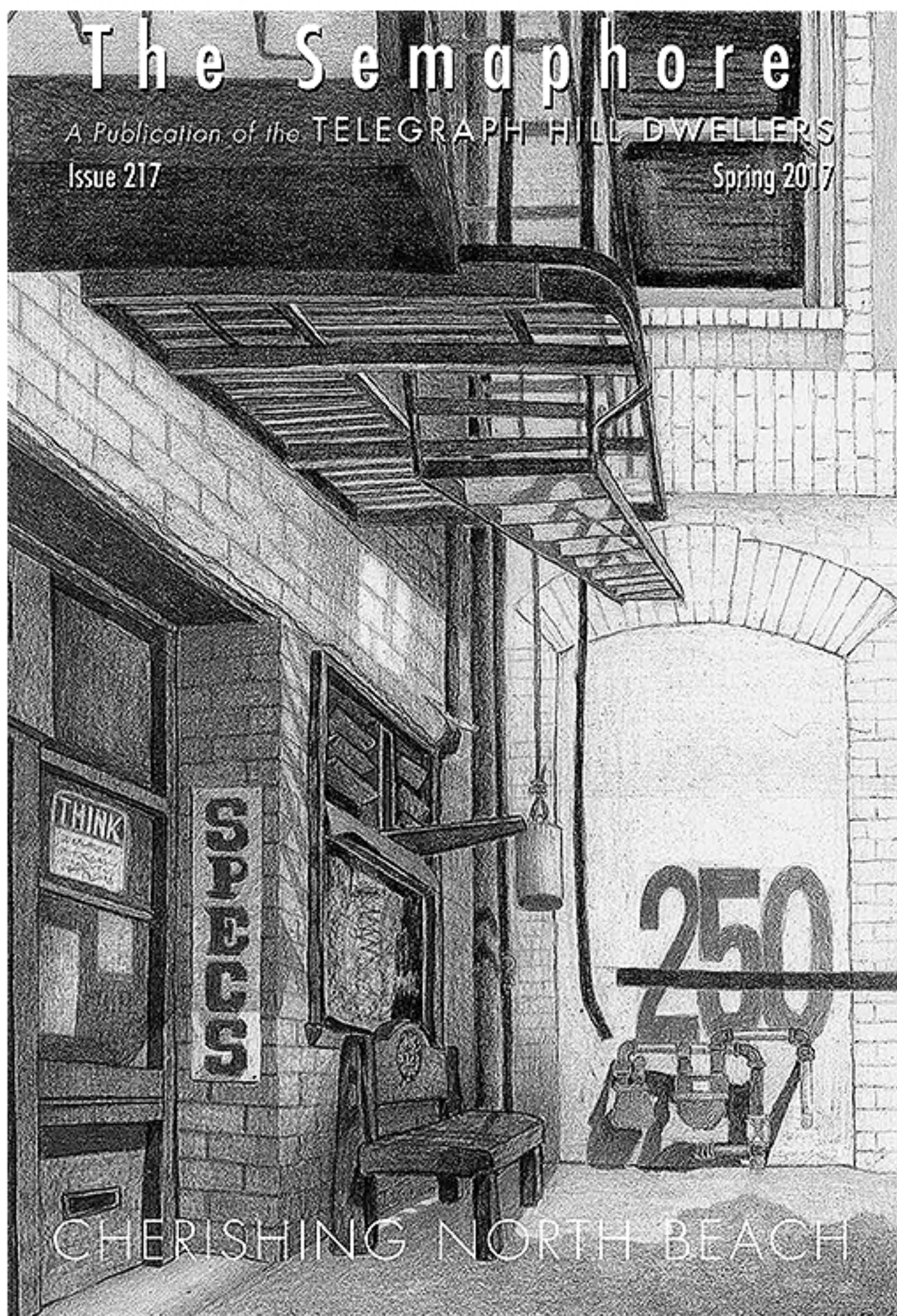


# The Semaphore

A Publication of the TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS

Issue 217

Spring 2017



CHERISHING NORTH BEACH

# SEEKING SHELTER IN NORTH BEACH, 1950S–1970S: THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF OWNING ANYTHING

by Nick Wand

In 1957, when I was three years old, my divorced mother fled her hometown of San Diego on her fortieth birthday. She left behind shattered dreams of postwar prosperity and brought me to North Beach, where my expectations of the world started in the midst of the social chaos in which I was to grow up.

Mama found a job as a decorator at Sterling's department store and enrolled in a master's degree program at the Art Institute. I was often left alone in what she called our "cheap, charming, temporary rental cottage" near Union and Mason streets, or I was placed in the care of others.



"Charming, cheap, and close to everything"

ALL PHOTOS © NICK WAND

The everyday witnessed events and overheard remarks of childhood form viewpoints and attitudes that shape the rest of one's life. We were broke, we were strange, and we lived in a narrow, bohemian world around Columbus Avenue. Many of the Beatniks we lived with were students at San Francisco State College or the Art Institute. Their tuition was often paid by Korean War veterans' benefits. Anything farther away than Russian Hill, Chinatown, or downtown was exotic and unobtainable.

Many of the really old sculptors and painters we

knew around North Beach told us how, during the Depression, they had driven for weeks across America to get to San Francisco. In the 1930s, they had been able to rent apartments and shacks up on Telegraph Hill for next to nothing. Some got wonderful government-sponsored jobs creating artwork, like the murals inside Coit Tower. Others got work teaching as art departments expanded at the schools. The lucky ones bought their homes for a few years' pay. They got to live next to friendly

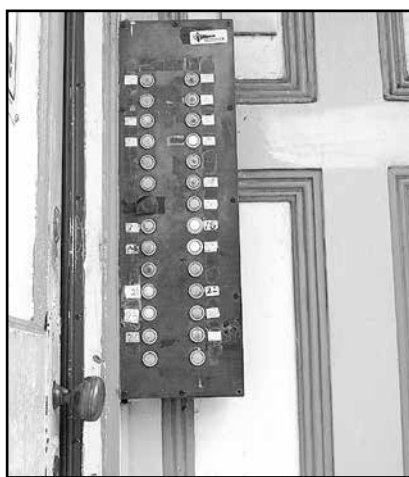
Italian neighbors, have space that they could

control in which to sculpt or paint, throw parties in hidden gardens, regard sweeping views of the industrial working waterfront down below, make money renting units to new arrivals, and look forward to staying put forever. They would get to retire and have a pension for life. These were people who could walk down the hill from their property and, over coffee at Trieste, be secure in their opinions about how the world worked.

In the 1950s, many Italian property owners moved their families out of North Beach to the desirable new suburbs in Westlake, Hayward, or San Rafael. North Beach was considered almost a slum. The landlords needed tenants, so they would even rent to Beatniks.

It was these newly inexpensive rents that made North Beach a good place for artists and with-it people without money. Cheap refrigerators, packaged meat, and a new Safeway at Chestnut and Columbus meant lots of surplus storefronts became available. Frank, a sculptor we knew, lived in an old shop at Green and Kearny for \$45 a month. People like him could rent an inexpensive commercial space, live in it, make art, sell their work, and live by their own schedule.

Katrina, a girl in my third-grade class at Garfield, lived on upper Grant. Her longshoreman



28 new apartments added to the building

father rented out part of their basement next to the passage the trash men used to get to the cans in back. He dug down to the sewer, stubbed in a toilet, threw down an old Persian carpet to cover the bare sloping dirt and rock floor, and installed an electric hot plate. Ivy grew through the broken window at the sidewalk level. It rented for \$50 a month to classmates of Mama's from the Art Institute Print Department who were delighted to get in so near the action in North Beach.

Their address was the same as Katrina's apartment upstairs, but with a "1/2" added to it. I asked Mama about the painted fraction addresses around town where units had been added. "Lots of them are from the 'hot bed' period during the

war," she answered. "Housing was so scarce on the West Coast that people slept in two or three shifts in a bed that never cooled down, while the others went off to their job in a defense plant. I lived with art school roommates in a storefront while your father was fighting the Japanese. My grandmother—she was a San Diego deputy sheriff, you know—was scandalized by me living like a gypsy." People were so desperate for places to live that they rented storerooms above theater lobbies. Loretta, a sad girl from my school with a scarred face, lived

with her mother in the little apartment above the Palace Theater marquee that hung out over the corner of Columbus and Powell. The noise from the show came through the walls. I wondered if she could drill a hole in the back wall into the auditorium and watch the movie for free? A fourth-grade buddy of mine, Bruce Fong, lived with his great grandfather in the apartments above the Sun Sing Theatre on Grant Avenue.

I sometimes stayed with friends who lived in residential hotels where they had a room with a sink in the corner for a guy to piss in and a bathroom down the hall. For a couple of bucks, we could both eat a big, Basque restaurant family-style dinner or a Chinatown meal so filling that I almost didn't want to eat the for-



Sun Sing Theatre & Apartments, Grant Avenue

tune cookie from the factory a block away. Wally Sands, known as the Colonel, was a U.S. Marine veteran of Iwo Jima and fought across thousands of miles of the Pacific. He ended up living in a 10' by 12' room above Mooney's Irish Pub until he died young at 72 in 1996.

Rich people we knew could afford to rent an entire apartment, long and narrow like a railroad car, for just themselves where several generations of Italian families had once lived. In the typical building, there were three apartments, one on top of another with a garage underneath, arranged side-by-side up and down the hills with an inch of space between them. Some became communes, with individual living quarters created in bay-windowed living rooms, dining rooms, bedrooms looking onto a light well, and even the back porches—all residents sharing a crowded bathroom and kitchen. Messages to other roommates were Scotch-taped to the icebox. Curtains made of blankets, coffee sacks, or sheets divided big rooms. Windows became places to grow potted flowers and marijuana. All was chaotic. Sometimes roommates could stay for as little as a dollar a day. Word spread about these communes, and people poured into the City. Mama observed, "Life for these kids is fun, inexpensive, and interesting."

It wasn't fun for us because we were usually late paying the rent on our cottage. It was a struggle. Roommates who lived in our flea-infested basement would be broke or disappear and new people would show up, a bedroll under their arm, after hearing about "what a great place to crash" we had. Prices were too high for us to even dream of buying property. After our



Safeway at Columbus & Chestnut. In background, Bauer & Schweitzer Malt Plant.

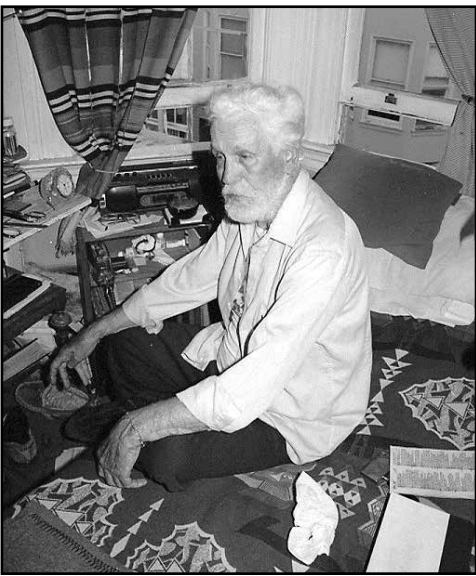
continued on page 2



car was stolen, we resigned ourselves to walking or riding the municipal railway for the rest of our lives.

Jonathan, a potter, told us what happened to him and his wife. “In the late 1940s, all these guys came back from World War Two and got low-interest G.I. Bill loans to buy houses. They bought the remaining cheap rental places around Telegraph Hill and renters were kicked out. Some of us exiled San Franciscans discovered that for \$3,000, you could buy a broken-down cottage on a decent lot in Sausalito, so that became the new cheap place.” Eventually even Sausalito got too expensive, except for the squatters living in the industrial wreckage of the wartime shipyard, on homemade houseboats or vessels anchored out in Richardson Bay. By the mid-1960s, the next place for artists, writers, and musicians was Mill Valley, where cabins in the redwoods waited to be rented or bought for next to nothing.

Eventually in the late 1960s and early 1970s, as industry moved to the southern part of the city or the East Bay, more



Wally Sands, U.S.M.C.

surplus factory buildings and warehouses became available around North Beach. Mama pointed these places out to me and talked about the windows and the light and how much space we could have to ourselves if we could just afford to move there. I imagined the best places to live were the big old commercial spaces like the old macaroni factory at Francisco and Grant or the nearby abandoned restaurant with a view of the Bay Bridge next to the wooden stairs down to the waterfront.

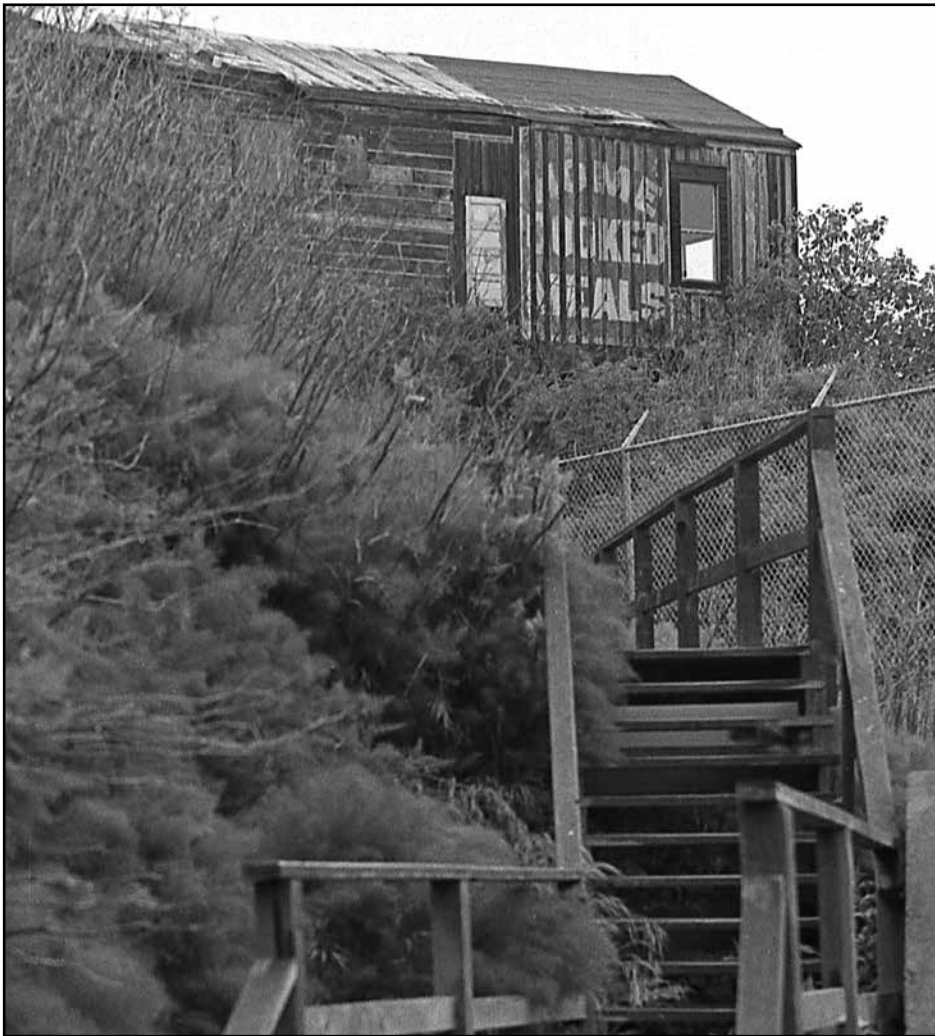
We would struggle to pay rent for the rest of the 1960s and early ‘70s before we were evicted. The illusion that North Beach was cheap, bohemian and thus easy to live in, was so powerful that, ironically, people were willing to pay ever higher rents to live here.



*Excerpted from a full-length photo-illustrated memoir in progress of growing up in North Beach. Author Nick Wand can be reached at NickNorthBeach@protonmail.com*



Condos have replaced the abandoned macaroni factory at Grant & Francisco.



Home Cooked Meals: the stairs at the cliff end of Francisco



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Stan Hayes  
Stan.Hayes@thd.org

Well, another May-to-April THD year is done! On behalf of your board, I want to thank you for all your support and help throughout the year. What a difference that support makes. It gives us the lift we need. Knowing that you have our back helps us have yours. Together with you, we’re

working to keep the Telegraph Hill area the wonderful and special place that it is, and that we all hope it always will be.

The thanks go double for me this time. I’ve reached the term limit set in our bylaws, and so this is my last column as president. Thanks to you and my hard-working and dedicated board colleagues, what a wonderful experience my two years as president has been! I can never thank all of you enough.

I’m not going anywhere, though. I’ll still be on the board, this time as past president. You can always reach me at Stan.Hayes@THD.org.

By the time you read this, you will have elected a new president and board at the THD annual mem-

bership meeting. I will have voted for Judy Irving for president, and I hope you did, too. Our vice-president for the past several years, Judy is not only an outstanding THD board member, but an award-winning filmmaker, whose cinematic prowess has elevated Telegraph Hill parrots to such major celebrity status that they now need their own agents. She will be a terrific president!

\* \* \*

Now, with the THD year just completed, we on your board owe you an accounting of what we’ve been doing on your behalf. On page 10 you’ll find some of the major THD accomplishments during the past year. Enjoy! And, thanks again!



Cole Hardware on opening day.  
PHOTO © JON GOLINGER

Congratulations to Cole Hardware on their new North Beach store! As we look back through history at this busy corner of Columbus and Vallejo, and welcome its new occupant, The Semaphore apologizes for incorrectly naming Rick and Adrianna Karp in the caption of a photo on p. 2 of our Winter issue.



Rossi's Market in 1955.





## DISTRICT 3 SUPERVISOR REPORT

by Aaron Peskin

Spring has sprung—and so has the resistance to the current administration’s draconian efforts to undermine our democracy. Since my last Semaphore dispatch, I’ve taken on several additional roles and responsibilities, which I hope will enable me to support our collective work as a unified community.

### ENVIRONMENT

Recently, I was honored when State Senate President Pro Tem Kevin de León appointed me to the California Coastal Commission to represent the North Central Coast, which includes the counties of San Francisco, Sonoma, and Marin. Last month I was appointed by the Board of Supervisors to be San Francisco’s representative on the Bay Conservation & Development Commission (BCDC), where I’ve been serving as an alternate to Supervisor Jane Kim. Earlier this year I was appointed to serve on the SF Bay Restoration Authority Board by the Association of Bay Area Governments. And last but certainly not least, I was unanimously elected Chair of the San Francisco Transportation Authority (SFCTA) by my colleagues earlier this year.

As a lifelong environmental advocate and longtime public transit nerd, I have been deeply concerned with the Trump administration’s proposed budget cuts, particularly cuts to funding dedicated to protecting our environment or improving public transit. The 45<sup>th</sup> President and his head of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Scott Pruitt (yes, the same guy who is currently suing his own agency!) have proposed gutting the EPA’s \$8.2 billion budget by a staggering 31 percent! This includes eliminating the EPA’s San Francisco Bay Program, which funds everything from wetland and watershed restoration to reducing polluted runoff and improving shoreline protection in San Francisco Bay. San Francisco just played a major role in helping pass the multi-county Measure AA on last November’s ballot, which will raise \$25 million a year to restore precious wetlands, intertidal areas, and bay uplands. We were the only region in the United States that raised our own local dollars to match the federal funding in the program, and now the feds are basically proposing to cut the “Bay” right out of “Bay Area.”

California also receives approximately \$2.5 million in federal funding annually from The National Oceanic

and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The largest portion of the California Coastal Commission’s budget comes from NOAA, and the proposed 10% budget cut would have catastrophic impacts on our ability to mitigate AND prepare for sea-level rise. Finally, the Trump clarion call to attack any jurisdiction that expresses support for science or reason has led to halting new federal investments in one of the top deterrents to climate change: our public transit programs. These cuts will impact planned BART and Caltrain improvements, which should concern everyone hoping to reduce regional congestion.

### INCLUSIONARY “HOUSING FOR ALL”

Under Trump’s proposed budget, housing and homelessness have not fared much better. Whether gutting the Department of Housing & Urban Development’s (HUD) budget by \$6.2 billion, eliminating Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) which fund everything from meal programs to our eviction protection efforts locally, or completely eradicating the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, the entire proposal is madness. Trump has even proposed cutting \$300 million from rental assistance payments—including precious housing vouchers for our homeless veterans.

Now more than ever, we must hold strong to proven tools that maximize affordable housing locally. Intelligent urban planning must reflect our strong commitment to affordable housing requirements in private development. Our landslide victory with Proposition C’s Inclusionary “Housing For All” measure in June of 2016 has once again been in the news, as Supervisor Kim and I work to update our inclusionary housing program. Our own city feasibility and nexus studies have confirmed that a 25% affordable housing requirement is feasible, especially as developers seek density bonuses under state law. Our “Housing For All” update retains the critical 15% commitment for low-income families and workers, as well as our first-ever requirement to set aside 10% for middle-income families.

Incidentally, while preparing for my first California Coastal Commission meeting, I uncovered that our Coastal Zone used to require 20%-30% inclusionary housing. In fact, between the years of 1977 and 1981, we built over 5,000 units of affordable housing throughout the Coastal area. It’s no wonder that San Francisco developers are continuing to commit to 25% on-site, most recently at 30 Van Ness.

An alternative proposal sponsored by Supervisors Safai and Breed, in partnership with Mayor Lee, would reduce the amount of affordable housing overall, particularly for low-income residents. This stands in stark contrast to what the voters approved last year and what Supervisor Kim and I are proposing now. Yet I believe we’re actually not that far apart in many respects. Good policy-making is born out of thoughtful dialogue, and I look forward to working toward an eventual compromise in the days ahead.

### TRANSPORTATION

Even without Trump’s devastating proposal to starve public transit infrastructure, San Francisco has been discussing the need for transit revenue for some time. The City chose to balance our budget (which I voted against) on a regressive sales tax to partially fund our local need. The budget assumed \$101.6 million annually for improved transit and Vision Zero safety projects, but ultimately the voters tanked that proposal at the ballot last November.

I am co-chairing the San Francisco Transportation 2045 Task Force (TTF2045) with the Mayor in an attempt to identify a sustainable source of revenue for our city’s growing road-repaving, transit-service, and MUNI-maintenance needs, with an eye toward a 2018 ballot measure. I believe that voters want to see three things: 1) a transparent and collaborative process from the outset, including a task force that represents actual neighborhoods and not just big business; 2) a progres-

sive source of revenue that doesn’t disproportionately burden working class residents; and 3) a commitment to appropriate oversight over those public dollars and investments.

In order to expand our menu of options, I have been working with Assemblyman Phil Ting to pass AB-1007, which would enable San Francisco to place a local income tax on the ballot. A recent study by the Controller revealed that levying a 0.5% tax on residents making \$1 million or more could generate anywhere from \$62 million to \$80 million annually. While everything is on the table, a carefully crafted local income tax could not only address the City’s growing transit needs but our growing income inequality as well. I look forward to your input and guidance throughout this process.

Finally, I am also working with SFCTA and SFMTA staff to put pressure on our state legislators to grant San Francisco the ability to regulate Transportation Network Companies (TNC’s) like Uber and Lyft. Recent studies have shown that the explosion of TNC’s on our city streets have led to increased congestion and stress on our local road infrastructure, while lack of real regulation has led to a lack of enforcement. I receive almost daily complaints from constituents about the dangerous behavior of TNC drivers unfamiliar with city roads, double-parked in city crosswalks, or too engrossed in their cell phones to notice pedestrians. It’s time for our state legislature to stand up for the safety and well-being of our residents and to help stem the worsening traffic congestion.

### NEIGHBORHOOD

A heartfelt farewell and congratulations to our fearless Central Station leader, former Captain David Lazar, who has been promoted to a new position in the SFPD Command Staff to implement recommendations from the Department of Justice on Community Policing and Community Engagement. As he said at his promotion dinner last month: “As Captain of Central Station, I’ve learned that you gotta take care of your cops—and you gotta take care of your community.” I thank Commander Lazar for his legendary responsiveness, extraordinary leadership, and heartfelt care for District 3 and its communities—it’s good to know he won’t be far.

We’re lucky to have Captain Paul Yep stepping into the leadership role at Central Station, a San Francisco native born at Chinese Hospital, who graduated from Lowell High School and San Francisco State University. Captain Yep has served with the SFPD since 1996, and you may remember him from his Central service ten years ago. I’m pleased to welcome him back to his old stomping grounds, and look forward to continuing the collaborative work that has made Central Station one of the most desired assignments in the city.

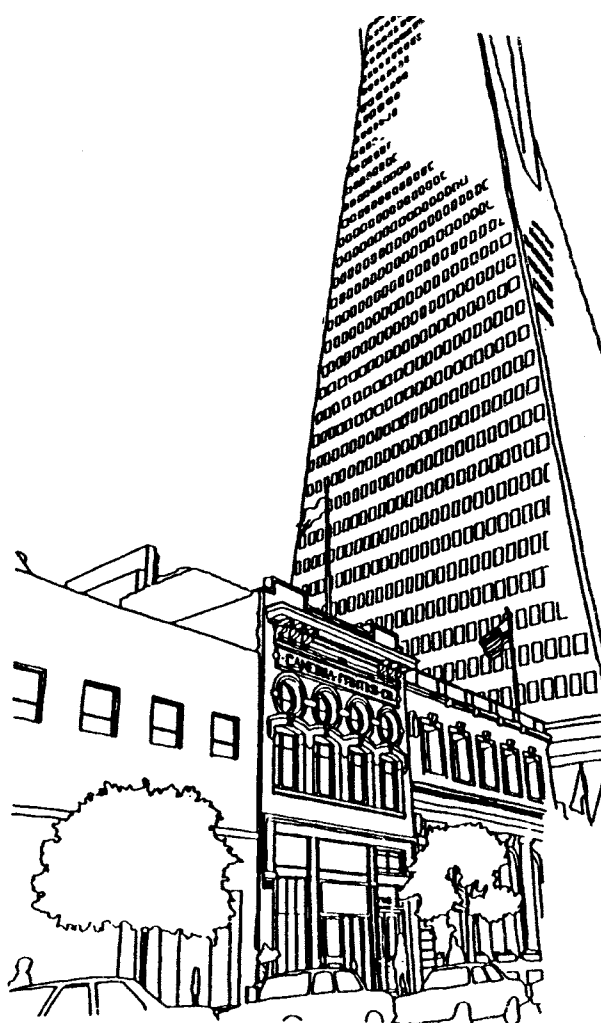
I also want to extend a warm welcome to the Cole Hardware family, who have opened their doors at 637 Vallejo Street, bridging North Beach and Chinatown. The true test of a complete neighborhood is the diversity and quality of its small businesses, and I was excited to help bring a locally owned hardware store to complete our neighborhood.

Finally, I would like to shout out the North Beach and Telegraph Hill neighbors and small businesses who came to the aid of the 19 seniors displaced in the Chinatown fire at 801 Pacific Avenue in February. With your help, we were able to reach our fundraising goal of \$75,000 to supplement rent for the displaced tenants while their housing is rebuilt. Thank you!

See you around the neighborhood! ✂

**Savor a sip of suspense**

<http://CarolVerburg.com>



ADVERTISEMENT

# ARTISTS BURNISH SKILLS AT METALWORKS SF

by Geri Koeppe

Homelessness and the displacement of artists in our city are two of the hottest topics of discussion in the Bay Area, and North Beach in particular. But did you ever consider their connection?

Several of the clients of North Beach Citizens homelessness outreach center are talented artists. One man paints gorgeous watercolors, while another does psychedelic designs in marker. A female client worked as a set builder on *The Matrix* and also loves architecture, design, and sculpture.

One client, Lee, is working toward realizing his dream of becoming a working artist, thanks to a mentoring relationship with Dan Macchiarini, owner of Macchiarini Creative Design. The relationship is mutually beneficial: Lee supports the working artists of the Macchiarini family by renting a bench in Dan's production studio behind the retail showroom at 1544 Grant Ave. and takes classes at Metalworks SF, the jewelry-making school arm of the business. The two have formed a bond, and Dan is excited that Lee is part of the community of artists who thrive off of each other.

"Ideas are beginning to happen not just with us who are mature artists, but with bench renters and students," Dan said. "I stand back in amazement sometimes and watch people work with each other. It's good for Lee to be integrated into that positive energy flow."

Lee became interested in casting (creating objects such as rings from molten metal poured into a mold) when he was young and his mother was taking jewelry-making classes, but he never pursued it. A while back, he planned to jerry-rig a setup with a Hibachi and



Metalworks SF, the school arm of Macchiarini Creative Design, provides students with a bench in a fully equipped working studio.

ALL PHOTOS © DAN MACCHIARINI

terra cotta pot out in the woods. Then he lost all of his possessions a few years ago when his storage locker caught fire. "Everything I owned went up in that storage locker," he said. "Twenty years of life—poof."

After being homeless for about four years, Lee swallowed his pride at the urging of a friend and went to North Beach Citizens to ask for help at the end of 2016 when his health got bad. Like many homeless people, Lee has serious medical issues. He has pinched nerves in his lower back and a herniated muscle in his throat that makes it difficult for him to breathe. North Beach Citizens went into action to get him the medical care he needed and housing. "The ladies over there are angels," he said.

Janet Pak at the center started chatting with Lee and discovered his dream of making jewelry. "Just in passing I said I wanted to do casting; that's been one of my dreams for a long time," Lee said. So she connected him with Dan, who was immediately receptive.

"I've had a long-term relationship with North Beach Citizens as a member of the North Beach Business Association," Dan said. "We regularly donate to North Beach Citizens as an organization and buy a table at their events. We bid on items there individually as individual merchants." He added, "Our relationship with North Beach Citizens goes back decades. It's a great idea. It takes what society has characterized as 'throwaway' people and turns them back into productive people; develops their skills and abilities; and re-functionalizes people to be able to save themselves."

Although Macchiarini Creative Design has existed for 68 years (Dan's father founded it), the school has only been around since 2015. Dan's daughter, Emma Macchiarini, runs that aspect of the business. It's not just for adults; they welcome children and youth in the classes, too. "They've eliminated shop classes and art classes in schools, so we wanted to facilitate participation for kids and people who want to come back and make their dreams happen, like Lee," Dan said.

And it's more accessible, Emma added, "because we don't have a matriculation process." It's founded on project-based learning. Lee

already has made three rings and is working on a fourth. In less than 10 weeks, Dan said, "He's gone from not having experience with casting to be able to cast and make pieces. He's wearing two of them right now." He added, "Even for that short amount of time, it's amazing what's he's done and it's amazing how the place has benefited from him being here."

Dan adapted one of the benches in the back to accommodate people with disabilities, like Lee. "It helped me learn about that watching Lee do the tasks in class," he said. "Together we adapted a bench that is set up for him to use." He added that it taught him a lot about how to teach metal arts to a wider spectrum of people.

Although he's just getting started, Lee has a dream of setting up his own shop and foundry some day. Because of this "screamingly successful experiment," Dan said, he and Emma hope to get grant money to help other North Beach Citizens clients participate. They hope to continue the partnership because they believe in the organization's mission and they've seen that it works. "You've got to look for something that



Thanks to classes, mentorship from Dan Macchiarini, & support from the artists' community at Metalworks SF, Lee is acquiring the skills to pursue his dream.

is effective and something that positively impacts the society around you, and North Beach Citizens fits both categories with flying colors," Dan said.

If you're interested in classes at Metalworks SF, they run for eight weeks and cost \$400 (\$550 for a wedding-ring class for couples), and the summer semester begins July 11. They teach beginner to intermediate-advanced courses in casting and fabrication, and each student makes a few projects in each class. The school provides all materials except for gold, precious metals, or precious stones. Bench retail is available for \$200 a month, or \$150 if you also take a class. Sign up online at [metalworkssf.com](http://metalworkssf.com).



With a strong work ethic and self-motivation, Lee made three rings in just 10 weeks of classes.



"We don't teach art; we teach craft and allow people to make what they want to make." —Dan Macchiarini



Lee's dream is to become a jewelry maker and have a foundry of his own someday.





## ART & CULTURE REPORT

by Romalyn Schmaltz, Committee Chair  
romalyn.schmaltz@thd.org

Call it The Daycare Center of the Universe for a reason: for many a Telegraph Hill Dweller, the day begins at Caffè Trieste, where we drop ourselves off to begin it all with a friendly voice and our community at large. It takes care of our caffeine and caloric concerns as we set about reckoning our dally tasks, but it also provides a nexus for many folks who might otherwise need a commons—so, truly, a center of the universe. For such a small village-in-a-big-city, there are quite a few such matrices in North Beach, and Trieste is where the heart beats best for me.

I'm feeling reflective, I guess. After two years as the Chair of THD's Art & Culture Committee, I'm moving on (to be Vice President, so I'm not leaving), and I wonder at how our landscape has moved on as well. I took the position under a different District 3 Supervisor and U.S. President, and am continually reminded of how much politics—local and beyond—must be woven into the tapestry that is Art & Culture. Federally, we've lost the National Endowments for both the Arts and Humanities. But we do have on our side a steward sensitive to the radically varied needs of our many creative neighbors for which we are rightly famous, Supervisor (and Hill Dweller) Aaron Peskin, who shows up for almost every neighborhood event he can (I remained unconvinced there is but one of him). It hasn't been easy to uphold the tenet of our bylaws which include the idea that we are obliged to protect the unique character of the neighborhood, but it's as central to our celebrations as it is to our struggles.

The last two years have been heavy, indeed. We've said so long to such stalwarts as Paul Kantner, Papa Gianni (Giovanni Giotta), and Richard "Specs" Simmons. In other words, the foundations of Jefferson Airplane, Caffè Trieste, and Specs Museum Café all

vanished in a single year. Carol Doda, Roy Mottini, June Osterberg, Mary Beth Marks were just a few more of the members we lost to time and trial. In fact, in just two years we lost so many that the heart hangs heavy upon the thought. We miss them all.

On the other hand, our Art & Culture Committee actively hosted such events as Gary Kamiya's and Mark Bittner's readings of their work in a panel called Walk Talks, *Semaphore* editor Carol Verburg's book release for *Zapped*, a staged reading of member Richard Slota's new play *Masculinity*, a couple of ballot-explanation parties, and other events connected to our Social Committee. We stayed very busy indeed.

We're an old community—but one with the buoyancy of a toddler. We bounce back from the damndest things. A looming challenge to Art and Culture has arisen from the spleen of the current federal administration. Nevertheless, we persist. I'd like to ask of each of you readers: How now should we persist? For me, the answer is always hyper-local: participate in your community efforts, guided by your personal interests and gifts. The Telegraph Hill Dwellers have ample room for engagement in whatever moves you, be it Art & Culture; Social; Parks, Trees, &

Birds; *The Semaphore* itself; Oral History—heck, if you like thinking about Parking (which is more interesting than it might sound), we're engaged with that as well. THD brought parking permit stickers to San Francisco to alleviate residents' struggle to park near their homes. We really care, and we always strive to do more in better ways.



Romalyn at her first THD board meeting

I write this from a little table at the Caffè Trieste, where the community continues its retinue of residents. We're all integral to the protection of our culture, and of our art. Please consider joining our active committees and collaborating with them per your interests—including our Art & Culture Committee, which by the time you read this will be chaired, I hope, by the outstanding Jessica Snow. As I glance around me here at all the familiar faces, I grasp how revolutionary this hamlet we call Home really is. We have poets, artists, writers, landscape architects, teachers, politicians, nurses, environmental activists, lawyers, mothers and fathers, entrepreneurs of every stripe—there are too many stations to name, but one song remains the same: We live here, and by joining forces, we can continue to be an example to the larger world that the great notion of community is far from dead, and that the solidarity

from which it springs is a collective and creative effort guided by not much more than the people in your neighborhood.

Thank you all for this opportunity to serve you. ✂

# “The definition of above and beyond.”



MARY MACPHERSON  
415.846.4685  
www.MaryMacphersonSF.com  
LIC# 1839976

*MM*  
MARY MACPHERSON

 **PARAGON**  
REAL ESTATE GROUP

**LUXURY**  
PORTFOLIO  
INTERNATIONAL



# MARY ETTA MOOSE

## RESTAURANT OWNER, PHILANTHROPIST, PILLAR OF NORTH BEACH

As we go to press, the Telegraph Hill Dwellers look forward to honoring Mary Etta Moose with this award at our Annual Meeting on April 24. THD thanks member Judith Robinson for supplying material for this tribute from interviews made in 1998.

Mary Etta Moose is an iconic figure in North Beach—a woman of many talents and great personal warmth, with a special care for those in need. Most local residents know her best as a partner in two successful restaurants, the Washington Square Bar & Grill and Moose's restaurant, both owned and operated with her late husband Ed Moose (1929-2010) and their friend Sam Dietsch (1929-2002). She is also a quiet philanthropist and a dedicated supporter of the neighborhood, as well as of politicians who share her desire to maintain the area's environment and character.

Born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Mary Etta Presti grew up in St. Louis, the daughter of a Sicilian father and a Welsh mother and the granddaughter of a Mississippi River boat captain. One of six children, she was thirteen when her mother asked if she would help out by working part-time. "I started at a drug-store counter downtown," she recalled, and then became a short-order cook at the Park Plaza Hotel coffee shop—her first exposure to cooking for the public. She attended Washington University and Harris Teachers' College, taught briefly, and then took jobs at the Baldwin Locomotive Works as a train router, and in the record department of a department store, helping program its radio show.

In the 1950s Mary Etta became a "Girl Friday" for the three Landesman brothers, entrepreneurs of entertainment in St. Louis. Sam Dietsch was an investor in some local ventures. Mary Etta managed a theater box office, was a production assistant, rented apartments, and took care of visiting artists. One prospective renter was Sam Dietsch's good friend Ed Moose. Ed disdained the apartment's decoration and price. "But he never forgot me, that I had the nerve to show it to him!" Mary Etta laughed of the memory.

Ed Moose was drawn to the area for the jazz and camaraderie. His family was Irish Catholic; the name Moose remained a mystery (possibly Scandanavian). Ed had a master's degree in psychiatric social work from St. Louis University and worked for social service agencies; he worked at the St. Louis insane asylum, at clinics for disturbed children, even as a marriage counselor.



Mary Etta Moose with Ed Moose tile at Joe DiMaggio Playground.

PHOTO © JUDITH ROBINSON

But it was during a stint in Germany with an Army Special Forces unit in 1955-56 that he discovered the gastronomic wonders of Italy and France. Back in St. Louis, a job for the *Post-Dispatch* sports desk triggered his return to Italy as an Associated Press reporter covering the 1960 Olympics.

The next winter, Ed traveled to San Francisco for the St. Louis University alumni association. "I got off the plane from St. Louis, where it was pure hell, and in San Francisco it was paradise—flowers everywhere." Back home, he piled his belongings and 6-foot-3-inch frame into a Volkswagen and headed to California on Route 66.

"There's a place for you out here," he told Mary Etta. She flew to San Francisco, and in 1964 they married—a tribute, said Mary Etta, to Ed's love for all things Italian. They bought a two-flat cottage on Telegraph Hill

with a picturesque garden and a view of the Golden Gate Bridge. Ed worked for Catholic Charities, then with Mayor Joseph Alioto's children-and-youth program and the national Urban Coalition. He arranged for Mary Etta to meet people in the theatrical world, including Enrico Banducci, who ran the nightclub "hungry i." She worked for public-relations man Grover Sales.



Ed and Mary Etta Moose and Sam Dietsch at Moose's Restaurant.

PHOTO © TERRY LORANT

Sam Dietsch joined the Mooses in 1966—in retirement, he thought, until he found a bar facing Washington Square called Pistola's, after the pistol worn by its previous owner during Prohibition speak-easy days. Pistola's was a dark "dive" with folding chairs, a pool table, pinball machines, a small triangular opening in the door, and blackened windows so no one could see inside. "That was the old style of North Beach bars," Sam recalled, "so people going by couldn't see who was sitting at the bar, swigging 'em, at eight o'clock in the morning." The then-owner's wife Rose (whom her husband claimed to have won in a card game) and a few of her Italian friends occasionally cooked on Sundays, setting out a pot of spaghetti, roast chicken, or plates of crab meat balls which customers could enjoy for \$2. "Once when we were eating, a pool ball landed right in a bowl of spaghetti!" Ed remembered. "Customers would ride their motorcycles up to the bar!" added Mary Etta.

In 1973 Sam and Ed offered \$25,000 for the place. Its new name combined Sam's fondness for old-time New York "bar and grills" with Ed's wish for a nod to the park: the Washington Square Bar & Grill. Mary Etta oversaw graphics, among other things, and artist Larry Green designed a whimsical logo with an exaggerated ampersand that became the restaurant's logo. The front windows were opened up to let in the view, and on Labor Day 1973 the "Square" opened for business. Over the years they engaged several chefs who went on to success elsewhere, including Gary Danko. Mary Etta, with coauthor Brian St. Pierre, wrote a book about local food, *The Flavor of North Beach* (1981).

The new restaurant started engaging musicians of note, including Burt Bales and Norma Teagarden, and local columnist Herb Caen began to plug the Square. Within two years the Mooses quit their other jobs to work full-time there, Mary Etta managing the kitchen, Ed and Sam as welcoming publicans. "It was Ed's wife Mary Etta who kept the place humming like a well-tuned Lamborghini," Ernest Beyl wrote in *The Marina Times* in 2013. She "smoothed out occasional ruffled feathers and bruised egos of friends, suppliers, employees and even good customers."

One annual event was a fund-raising penny-pitch to benefit St. Anthony's Dining Room—one of 150 charities the Mooses supported, and Mary Etta still does. Ed invited baseball and football players to inaugurate the contest on Washington's Birthday, 1977 (players donated money to pitch coins). It became a celebrity event and over the years raised \$100,000.

The partners sold the Square in 1989. The terms of the sale required them not to open a competing business within two years. When Ed two years later saw a For Sale sign on a building directly across the park, he and Mary Etta checked it out. With other investors, they bought Figoni's furniture store building for a new restaurant and bar, and opened Moose's. On Columbus Day 1992, as neighborhood residents celebrated Washington Square Park's return to old-fashioned lighting and landscaping, suddenly in the dusk a brilliant blue light ignited—a neon moosehead with six-foot ears!

Mary Etta once again helped run the restaurant until she and Ed sold it in 2005. (Park Tavern now occupies the site.) Sam Deitsch had died three years earlier. Artifacts from the Square, including jerseys from its softball team *Les Lapin Sauvages* and newspaper columnist Stanton Delaplane's typewriter, were given to the San Francisco Public Library History Center after Ed's death in 2010. Mary Etta Moose continues to support many of the same charities and political causes that she and Ed championed, among them the North Beach Playground. She remains highly respected and beloved among her colleagues, customers, friends, and the many protégés she hired and encouraged.



# WATERFRONT COMMITTEE REPORT

by Jon Golinger

High-rise luxury condos, office towers, sports stadiums, shopping malls—and now hotels. The lengthy list of proposed developments to turn San Francisco’s unique, historic, and accessible waterfront into Miami Beach or Anyswhereville USA just got even longer. At a March meeting of the Port’s Waterfront Plan Working Group, which is reviewing and considering changes to the voter-created Waterfront Land Use Plan, Port staff unveiled a feasibility analysis and preliminary schematics of a potential commercial hotel on Pier 35 on the northeast waterfront—despite the fact that waterfront hotels are flatly illegal under 1990’s voter-approved Proposition H.

As part of the Waterfront Plan review process, the Port has hired a consulting firm to analyze the financial feasibility of a range of possible uses of the remaining undeveloped piers and seawall lots along San Francisco’s waterfront. Unfortunately, while the Port’s consultants have given only cursory attention to potential uses consistent with the Waterfront Land Use Plan, such as active recreational facilities, cultural and educational uses, and creative spaces such as art galleries or museums, they are conducting an extensive analysis of how one or more luxury hotels could be built on our historic piers.

In passing the explicit prohibition on putting commercial hotels on waterfront piers, San Francisco voters found that, unlike maritime and water-oriented uses such as boating, ferries, cruise ships, fishing, and swimming, “hotels do not need to be located on the waterfront . . . [and] do not provide high quality public access to, or permit restoration of, San Francisco Bay.” Nevertheless, a scheme to repeal the waterfront hotel ban is apparently underway. This is particularly shocking to see because the Lee Administration and the Port announced earlier this year that they intend to seek the approval of two-thirds of San Francisco voters for a massive \$350 million seawall restoration bond measure on the November 2018 ballot. Do Mayor Lee and the Port really think the best way to win San Franciscans’ trust and financial support is to blatantly ignore what they have voted for before?

# PORT SEEKS TO REPEAL VOTER BAN ON BUILDING HOTELS ON SF PIERS

## Lawsuit Twist: Ex-Port Director Turns on City

As reported in the Winter Semaphore (“Lawsuit To Undo SF Waterfront Protections Heads to Trial”), the State Lands Commission’s lawsuit against the City and County of San Francisco to undo the voter-approved Waterfront Height Limit Right to Vote Act (Proposition B) is headed for a court showdown. On June 28, 2017 at 2 PM in Courtroom 504 of the San Francisco Superior Court at 350 McAllister, Judge Suzanne Bolanos will hear cross-motions for Summary Judgment being brought by both sides. The public is invited to attend. SF City Attorney Dennis Herrera and his staff continue to do a tremendous job vigorously defending the right of the City and County and its people to have some say in decisions about the waterfront’s future.

Several new twists took place with recent legal filings in the case. First, the State Lands Commission summarily dropped a number of its initial claims, such as its claims that the passage of Prop. B decreased the Port’s revenue and negatively impacted the Port’s operations, because it could not support them with actual facts.

Second, the State Lands Commission filed a sworn declaration from former Port Executive Director Monique Moyer—now an executive with commercial firm CBRE Real Estate—supporting the lawsuit against her former employer, the City and County of San Francisco. Moyer’s declaration is full of opinion and speculation highly critical of allowing voters to have a say in any waterfront matters. Her declaration in effect makes the claim that backroom deals negotiated between political appointees and their staff, and developers and their lobbyists—such as the one that resulted in the 8 Washington luxury condo debacle—are a more well-informed and fair process than a free and open election with a public debate where all sides have a chance to be heard. We will see what the judge says.

## Peskin Joins California Coastal Commission

Our friendly neighborhood Supervisor is putting his long-standing passion for protecting San Francisco Bay to work statewide to preserve the California coast. In March, the leaders of the California State Senate appointed Supervisor Aaron Peskin to a vacant seat representing the North Central Coast on the California Coastal Commission, the primary agency that regulates

construction and development activities along the state’s 1,100 miles of shoreline. The Coastal Commission was created by voter initiative in 1972 in response to controversial development plans that would have privatized and closed off vast swathes of beaches and coastline to the public. The Commission’s 12 members are charged with a wide range of responsibilities, including protection of coastal resources, shoreline public access and recreation, fisheries, wildlife habitat, offshore oil and gas development, and a myriad of activities up and down the coast, from San Diego to Eureka.

Supervisor Peskin has served for 20 years as President of Great Basin Land and Water, an environmental non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of land and water resources for public purposes. He has also served for years on the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), the agency on which the Coastal Commission was modeled, the Golden Gate Bridge Authority, and the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, formed after Bay Area voters approved the creation of an historic Bay restoration funding measure in 2016.

In response to his appointment, Supervisor Peskin said: “At a time when our marine and coastal environments face very real threats, including a federal administration that refuses to address climate change and sea-level rise, we must work together to protect the public interest and encourage sustainable development policies.”

I know I speak for THD in saying that we are very proud to have Aaron serving in this vital statewide stewardship role and trust that he will work tirelessly to keep our precious coast thriving, open, and accessible to all Californians for generations to come.

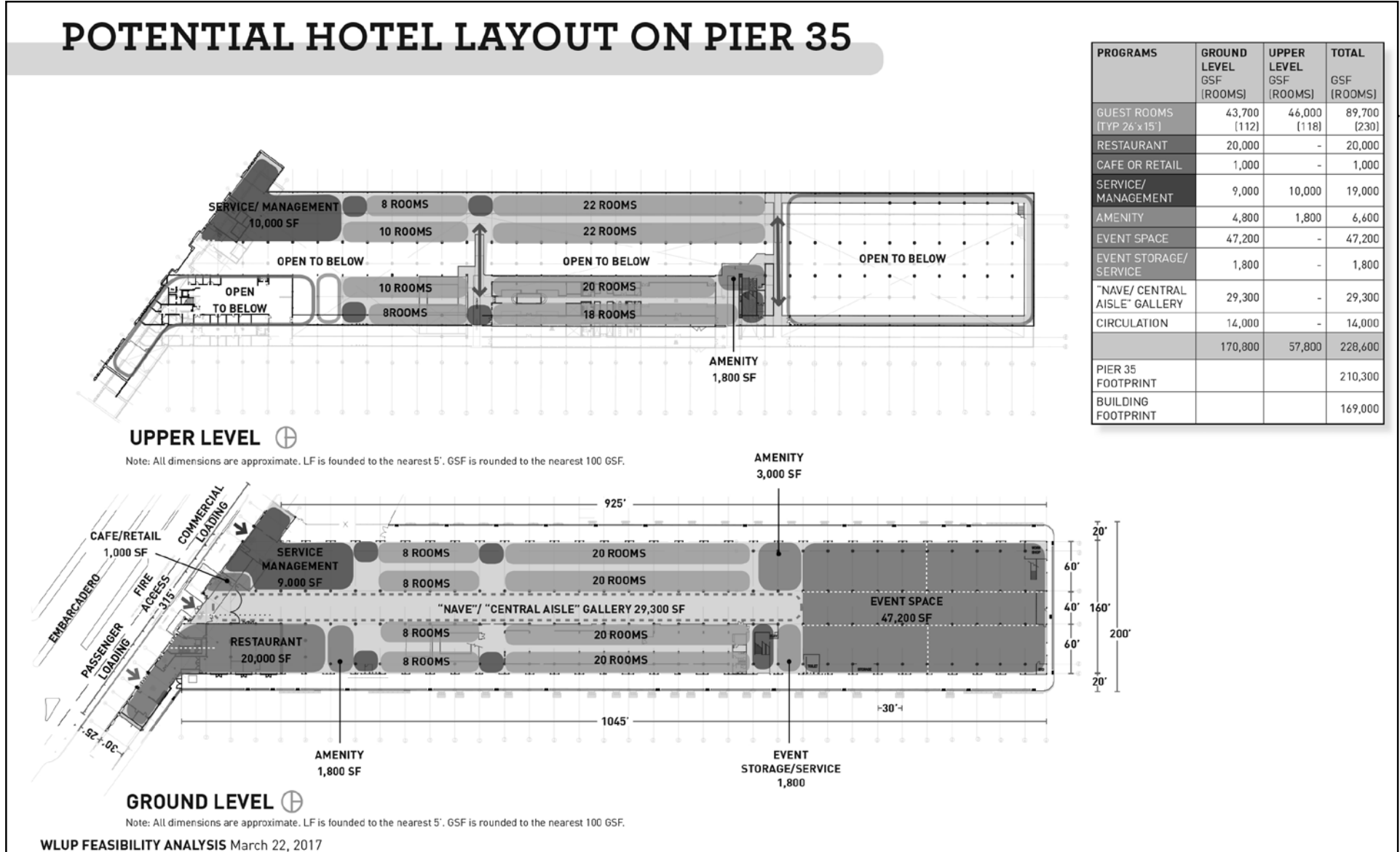


**Elizabeth Ashcroft**

eastudio@comcast.net  
415.263.8959  
artbyashcroft.com

Elizabeth Ashcroft Fine Arts on FB  
250 Columbus #202 SF CA 94133

Grey City Gallery Proprietor





# SAN FRANCISCO'S LEGACY BUSINESS PROGRAM

by Nancy Shanahan, Historian

*"The trust of a city street is formed over time from many, many little public sidewalk contacts. It grows out of people stopping by at the bar for a beer, getting advice from the grocer and giving advice to the newsstand man, comparing opinions with other customers at the bakery and nodding hello to the two boys drinking pop on the stoop..."* —Jane Jacobs, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, p. 143

San Francisco's Legacy Business Program, adopted by the voters in November 2015, recognizes that our City's unique character is defined equally by its historic neighborhoods and the people, businesses, and uses that inhabit and enliven them.

The North Beach neighborhood is celebrated for its historic character and its independent small businesses. But our longstanding retail stores, restaurants, bars, and galleries have never been more at risk of being priced out of the market and closed down. The most recent losses have included Alma's Alterations, Capp's Corner, Fog Hill Market, and Yone Bead Shop, all pushed out when new owners acquired their buildings and imposed rent increases or entered into speculative schemes.

The threat and extensive displacement extends far beyond North Beach. As shown by a 2014 report prepared by the City's Budget and Legislative Analyst's Office, almost 4,000 small businesses closed in 2014 alone, as compared to only 693 small business closures in 1994, the first year of the study. The report draws the connection between San Francisco's skyrocketing rents and the high level of commercial evictions. And because California law prohibits rent control on commercial leases, commercial rents in most neighborhoods have risen significantly—in some areas, more than 256%.

In an attempt to stem the loss of the City's iconic and enduring historic businesses, SF Heritage launched a "Legacy Bars and Restaurants" educational initiative in 2013. Heritage identified over a hundred of San Francisco's "most legendary eateries, watering holes, dives, and haunts" and created a guide (available on its website) to encourage people to patronize these businesses.

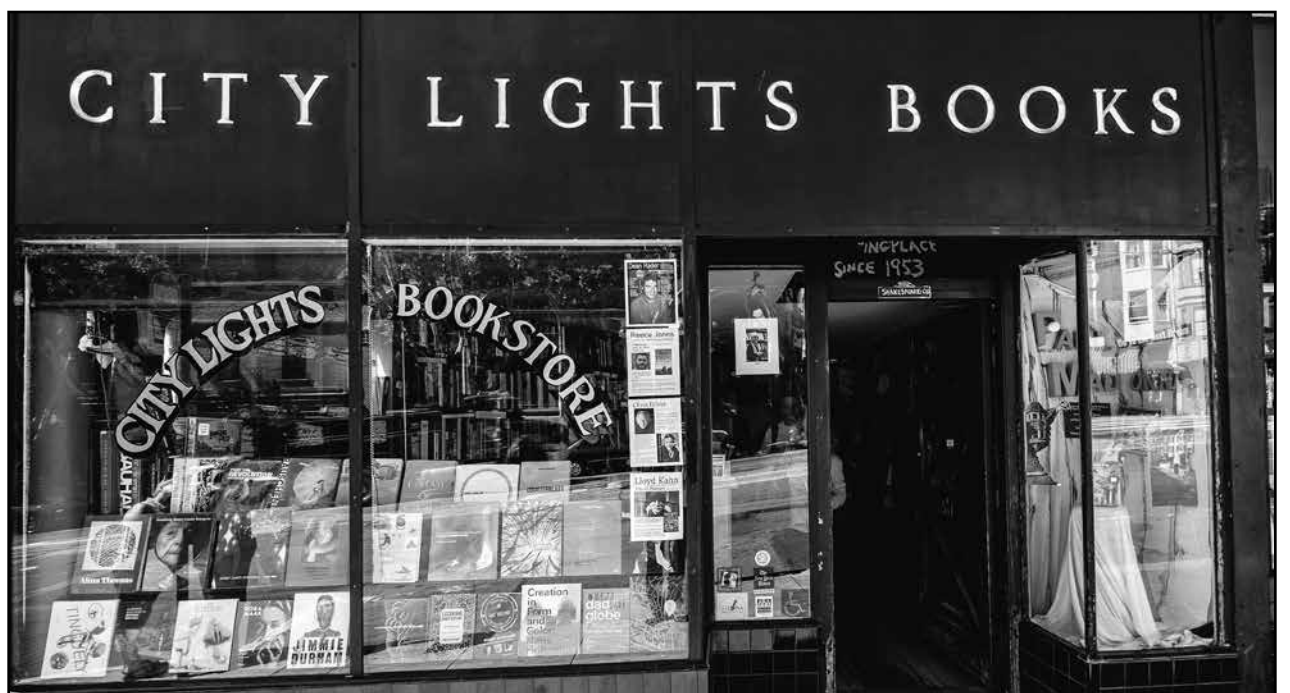
## Legacy Business Registry

Subsequently, former Supervisor David Campos took up the charge and crafted legislation to create an official San Francisco Legacy Business Registry to officially recognize small businesses as historic assets—not just the buildings that house them—and to provide them some protection.

A unanimous vote by the Board of Supervisors in March 2015 created the Legacy Business Registry. To be eligible for listing, a business must:

- Be 30 years or older;
- Have contributed to its neighborhood's history; and
- Agree to maintain its identity, historic name and craft.

Before a business can be listed, it must be nomi-



City Lights Booksellers & Publishers

PHOTO © RICHARD ZIMMERMAN

nated by a member of the Board of Supervisors or the mayor, and in a hearing before the Small Business Commission, prove that it has made a significant impact on the history or culture of its neighborhood. Nominations are limited to 300 businesses annually.

## Legacy Business Historic Preservation Fund (Prop J)

To provide meaningful support for Legacy Businesses under threat of displacement, Supervisor Campos proposed Proposition J on the November 2015 ballot. This initiative established a **Legacy Business Historic Preservation Fund** to provide grants to businesses listed on the Registry, as well as to property owners who extend long-term leases to their Legacy Businesses tenants. At a time when Campos and a handful of other supervisors were fighting the so-called "Twitter Tax Break," which gave away some \$32 million a year to venture capital-funded tech companies in tax breaks, voters agreed it seemed only fair that San Francisco should extend financial incentives to our small local iconic businesses as well.

The Historic Preservation Fund made the following grants available:

- Legacy Businesses are eligible for annual **Business Assistance Grants** of \$500 per employee (with a cap of 100 employees).
- Landlords who extend the leases of Legacy Businesses for at least 10 years may receive annual **Rent Stabilization Grants** of \$4.50 per square foot (with a cap of 5,000 square feet).

In other words, Prop. J created real financial incentives for legacy businesses to stay and shelter in place.

## Legacy Businesses in North Beach

To the frustration of many, the program got off to a slow start as the Small Business Commission sought funding and staff to administer the program. Meanwhile, the number of nominations for Legacy Business status skyrocketed as businesses realized the program could help them stabilize their rents and preserve their businesses.

In North Beach alone at least twenty businesses have been nominated to the Registry by District 3 Supervisor Aaron Peskin (and he's nominated dozens more in Chinatown and other parts of District 3). As the following list shows, the nominations represent the wide diversity of our neighborhood's historic establishments—from restaurants and bars to galleries and bookstores, including a wig store and butcher shop.

## Listed on the Legacy Business Registry

**Specs' Twelve Adler Museum Café (1968)**  
**12 William Saroyan Place**

One of the first nine businesses to be included in the Legacy Business Registry, Specs' was originally founded as a union bar in 1968 by Elly and Richard Simmons.

It is unique to San Francisco in the integral role it played and continues to play in the bohemian nature of the North Beach neighborhood, as well as the collections of objects that make it a museum. These include (among many others) San Francisco historical photographs and antiques, whaling history antiques, flags donated by various merchant marines over the years, and World War II and Spanish Civil War posters. A popular meeting spot for poets and artists, SF poet laureate emeritus Jack Hirschman considers Specs' "the most progressive bar in all of San Francisco."

Supervisor Peskin has called Specs' "the poster child for legacy businesses." At the time it was listed, the bar's lease was up for renewal. Normally the owners would have been offered only a five-year lease, but after being recognized as a Legacy Business, they were able to secure a new 10-year lease. Supervisor Peskin added that Specs' is "a San Francisco institution that accommodates literally everyone from this town. It's one of the last union bars in the city, and we are happy it will be around for at least another ten years."

## Macchiarini Creative Design and Metalworks (1948)

1544 Grant Avenue

Also one of the first nine businesses to be included in the Legacy Business Registry, Macchiarini Creative Design and Metalworks is the oldest ongoing metal arts and jewelry design house and production studio in the United States. Peter Macchiarini, who founded the business in 1948, was a celebrated North American modernist jeweler and sculptor who was a pioneer in the field of avant-garde jewelry. Peter also played an instrumental role in organizing the first San Francisco outdoor festival in 1938 as well as founding the Upper Grant Avenue Street Fair in 1953. The business, which Peter operated for decades with his wife and talented enamel artist Virginia, has remained in the family and is now helmed by Peter's son, Daniel. Macchiarini Creative Design and Metalwork continues to offer metal workshop courses and regularly invites the community into his Grant Avenue location for various art openings. (See more on p. 4.)



Macchiarini Creative Design and Metalworks

PHOTO © CAREN ZISSON



Cafe Trieste by night

PHOTO © JULIE JAYCOX



**Caffè Trieste (1956)**  
**601 Vallejo Street**

Founded in 1956 by Giovanni Giotto (known as “Papa Gianni”), who immigrated to the United States from a small fishing town in Italy, the Caffè Trieste is the West Coast’s first espresso coffee house. It has become internationally renowned for its combination of old Italy, bohemian poets, art and music, and excellent espresso. The Caffè has continuously served as a gathering place for poets, politicians, celebrities, tourists, and locals from all walks of life and has come to be known as the “living room” for many neighbors. It has a rich history as a meeting place for Beat Movement poets and writers like Jack Kerouac and Allen Ginsberg. We hope their Legacy Business status will help ensure that the Caffè Trieste will be around for decades to come.

**City Lights Booksellers and Publishers (1953)**  
**261 Columbus Avenue**

Opened in 1953 by Peter D. Martin and Beat-era poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti, City Lights is a world-renowned independent bookstore and publisher that served as a gathering place for post–World War II intellectuals and literati and as a publisher of Beat Generation writers. The business is also significant for its association with the defense of Allen Ginsberg’s *Howl and Other Poems* in a landmark test of First Amendment protections. Designated as City Landmark #228, City Lights is still relevant today, playing a critical role in San Francisco’s intellectual life through its bookselling and publishing, as well as its free literary programming.



Ships have gotten bigger, but Pier 23 stays the same.

PHOTO © CJ VERBURG

This rare one-story vernacular style building has served as a restaurant since its construction in 1937. Today, it remains a valuable cultural asset of the North Beach neighborhood and the City and is an important destination for locals as well as visitors and notable personalities. Pier 23 Café has also been designated as a contributing resource to the Port Embarcadero Historic District listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**Cole Hardware (1959)**  
**956 Cole Street; now also at 627 Vallejo Street**

Though a newcomer to North Beach, Cole Hardware began in 1959, when Dave Karp purchased a hardware store in Cole Valley that had been in business since the 1920s. Renaming it Cole Hardware, Dave ran



In 1971 the Cantalupo family turned over their 1935 restaurant to its longtime chef, Tommy, who changed Lupo’s to Tommaso’s.  
(PHOTO COURTESY OF TOMMASO’S)

it all by himself—doing everything from ordering and stocking the merchandise, to waiting on customers, to cleaning. As the business grew, his wife, Margie, helped in the store while Dave took on outside repair work for his customers. A sign posted above his register read: “There Are No Strangers Here, Just Friends We Haven’t Met!” Cole Hardware became one of the busiest hardware stores in San Francisco, eventually expanding into seven locations.

Rick Karp, Dave and Margie’s son, started working in the family business at age 13 as the floor sweeper. Following college graduation, Rick became his father’s partner and later the president of Cole Hardware. Dave’s grandchildren Adrianna and David are now fostering its legacy: Adrianna is the Assistant Manager of the new North Beach store. Cole Hardware still provides its customers with home repair services, now through partnerships with other local small businesses. It also donates thousands of dollars annually to local schools and community organizations and employs numerous local residents at each location.



**Gypsy Rosalie’s Wigs & Vintage (1960)**  
**1457 Powell Street**

Originally opened at 784 Broadway in 1960, Gypsy Rosalie’s Wigs & Vintage is best known for its wide array of styled wigs and wig styling classes. Owned by Rosalie Jacques, the business has maintained a long relationship with various San Francisco groups and communities, including Beach Blanket Babylon performers, members of the LGBTQ community, cancer patients, celebrities, and entertainers. Among Rosalie’s



Sodini’s Green Valley Restaurant and Gino & Carlo Cocktail Lounge & Sports Bar  
PHOTO © DENNIS HEARNE

**PENDING NOMINATIONS  
TO THE REGISTRY**

- Canessa Gallery (1966)**  
708 Montgomery Street
- Tommaso’s Ristorante Italiano (1935)**  
1042 Kearny Street
- Vesuvio Café (1948)**  
255 Columbus Avenue
- Mario’s Bohemian Cigar Store Café (1971)**  
566 Columbus Avenue
- Sodini’s Green Valley Restaurant (1906)**  
510 Green Street
- Columbus Cutlery (1964)**  
358 Columbus Avenue
- Gino and Carlo Cocktail Lounge & Sports Bar (1942)**  
548 Green Street
- Graffeo coffee roasting co. (1932)**  
735 Columbus Ave.
- Liguria Bakery (1911)**  
1700 Stockton Street
- Little City Market (1940)**  
1400 Stockton Street
- Café Jacqueline (1979)**  
1454 Grant Avenue

Do you know of a business that qualifies as a Legacy Business? If so, please let THD or Supervisor Peskin know!



Owner-Chef Jacqueline Margulis at Café Jacqueline  
PHOTO © DENNIS HEARNE



Liguria Bakery  
PHOTO © JUDITH POWELL



# THD ACCOMPLISHMENTS THIS PAST YEAR May 2016 – April 2017

by Stan Hayes  
Stan.Hayes@thd.org

Founded in 1954 and one of the oldest community organizations in San Francisco, THD has worked hard for more than sixty years to make Telegraph Hill and its surrounding area, including North Beach and the Northeast waterfront, a better place to live for everyone, everywhere—not just for those of us lucky enough to live here, but as stewards of the Hill, for people who come from all over the world to see and experience this special place. We’ve done that by following the “mission statement” in our bylaws:

- Beautify and improve Telegraph Hill
- Build community
- Protect the unique character of the Hill
- Celebrate the Hill’s history and traditions
- Engage in affairs of the City
- When necessary, stand up for the Hill.

We’ve redesigned and updated our website ([THD.org](http://THD.org)), building it around our mission statement, with an all-new look and functionality that makes it easier to see who we are and what we’ve been doing. Here’s a sampling of THD accomplishments during the past year from May 2016 to April 2017.

## BEAUTIFY AND IMPROVE

We joined in efforts to restore landscaping at Coit Tower, improve signage and public display of its historical collection, and develop a possible WiFi-supported app for visitors.

We participated in the planning process to improve Washington Square Park, including development of plans for the park’s perimeter and children’s playground.

We worked with the Port to improve access signage for public open space at the Pier 27 Cruise Terminal, including providing feedback on the design and siting of temporary wayfinding graphics installed at various points near the terminal.

We worked with the City to improve park maintenance and access at Jack Early Park, and we are engaged in a new phase of planning for the park that includes development of a plan for planting.

We joined with others in the installation of a bronze plaque honoring Friends of Washington Square cofounder Herb Kosovitz.

## BUILD COMMUNITY

We helped build a stronger community with a variety of dinner, social, art, cultural, and other events.

We began the year with our Annual Membership Meeting & Election, with THD members electing officers and board members, while enjoying featured speaker Supervisor Aaron Peskin, comments by Central Station Police Captain David Lazar, fine food, and the unique and historic Pier 23 venue.

We held a staged reading of THD member Richard Slota’s new play *Mascularity*.

We held a Halloween Eve book-launch party for *Semaphore* editor Carol (CJ) Verburg’s *Zapped: an Edgar Rowdey Cape Cod Mystery*.

We sponsored a neighborhood ballot discussion, led by Supervisor Peskin, helping to untangle the dozens of ballot propositions that impacted District 3 in the Fall election.

We enjoyed another lively and festive annual Holiday Celebration at Original Joe’s, with nearly eighty THD members and friends enjoying a warm and inviting atmosphere, great conversation, holiday cheer, renowned OJ appetizers, and generously donated wine.

We partnered with OpenSF History to present “A Picture AND a Thousand Words,” an interactive history program featuring speakers Woody LaBounty, Gary Kamiya, Mark Bittner, Barbara Cannella, and others.

We joined with Supervisor Peskin and others to cosponsor a free community screening of the San Francisco documentary “Company Town” at the San Francisco Art Institute.

We celebrated the end of Winter and the coming of Spring (finally!) with a Spring Mixer at Belle Cora.

We encouraged community-based efforts to reduce crime by joining with others in SFPD Central Station’s well-attended National Night Out event, bringing

together police and neighbors to build a safer community.

We told THD’s story at the North Beach Festival, meeting, talking and listening to dozens of festival-goers.

We enabled THD members to enjoy a delightful evening at the SF Symphony’s All-San Francisco Concert, acquiring and distributing at cost on a first-come-first-served basis as many of the hard-to-get tickets as we could get.

We informed THD members about a variety of community events and other matters, including the Free Neighborhood Weekend at the California Academy of Sciences, the SF Symphony’s free concert at Pier 27, and neighborhood walking tours benefiting local non-profits.

## PROTECT UNIQUE CHARACTER

We worked to protect the unique character of Telegraph Hill, North Beach, and the Northeast waterfront.

We continued our years-long efforts to oppose a large-sized multi-unit private residential project at 115 Telegraph Hill Boulevard, adjacent to Coit Tower’s Pioneer Park, joining with others in a legal appeal against project approvals and challenging the project developer on his proposed plans for managing the more than two years of planned construction.

We worked to find a more community-friendly alternative to the proposed Poets’ Plaza, which would close Vallejo Street between Grant and Columbus to establish a pedestrian-only piazza. Though we strongly support the concept of public open space, we are unable to endorse the permanent closure of Vallejo Street, one of the few east/west arteries that serves as essential vehicular access, both for the several hundred families who rely on it and for the nearby merchant community.

We advocated for the Hill in the SFMTA’s ongoing review and update of the residential permit parking program, urging that SFMTA recognize and account for the Hill’s uniquely high residential density, steep hillsides, limited on-street parking, and non-resident parking pressure.

We worked to ensure that the Planning Department’s rewrite of Article 7 of the Planning Code adequately recognizes and protects the unique and special character of North Beach, offering comments and recommendations to planning staff.

We engaged with the Port, city agencies, and developers in efforts to help shape and improve the designs of three major projects near or on the waterfront:

- 88 Broadway affordable housing project (we strongly supported affordable housing, while advocating for a smaller building size/mass more in scale with adjacent buildings and the Northeast Waterfront Historic District)
- Teatro ZinZanni theater/hotel project (we strongly supported a theater use, while advocating for a different building configuration that would not block the general plan-protected view corridor down Vallejo Street toward the waterfront)
- Jamestown Pier 29 retail project (we advocated for active recreational use as called for in the current Waterfront Land Use Plan, while opposing retail use of the pier).

## CELEBRATE HISTORY AND TRADITIONS

We worked to celebrate the historic and cultural heritage of the Telegraph Hill area.

We published *The Semaphore*, with four issues a year straight into the mailbox of every THD member and worth by itself the price of a THD membership, continuing a half-century tradition during which it has chronicled our lives on the Hill, our history, and our art and culture.

We honored at our Holiday Celebration two exceptionally deserving persons who have made outstanding contributions to our community. Supervisor Aaron Peskin presented the 2016 Outstanding Contribution to the Neighborhood Award to Gerry Crowley, for her inspiring example of how local activism can lead to outstanding achievements for the public good, and the 2016 Heritage of the Hill Award to Zach Stewart and Canessa Gallery for making Canessa Gallery a major hub of North Beach activism and art over the last 50 years.

We remembered the loss of cherished neighbors and celebrated the lives of

- Giovanni “Papa Gianni” Giotta, a North Beach original and the founder and “longtime epicenter” of the legendary Caffè Trieste.
- June Osterberg, once called a “North Beach Treasure” by a fellow reporter, and one of THD’s longest and most beloved members.
- Richard “Specs” Simmons, founder and longtime proprietor of Specs Bar, about whom it was said “he defined the traditional San Francisco saloonkeeper.”
- Mary Beth Marks, co-founder of Da Flora and Rialto Mercato, once called “a shining example of community stewardship.”

We prepared letters supporting Legacy Business designations for Telegraph Hill-area businesses, including Pier 23, Macchiarini Creative Design and Metalworks,



## SOCIAL & PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

by Marilee Gaffney, Co-Chair  
marilee.gaffney@thd.org

The THD Spring Mixer brought together neighbors and members to celebrate the beginning of Spring! Many thanks to Belle Cora for hosting this event for the second year in a row and for offering wonderful appetizers for everyone to enjoy.



Hana Chedyak of the much-missed Fog Hill Market & Nils Marthinsen of Belle Cora



One of our youngest neighbors is welcome at THD’s Spring Mixer!

PHOTOS © MARILEE GAFFNEY

continued on page 11



# SAN FRANCISCO LOVES OUR PELICANS

by Judy Irving

My film *Pelican Dreams* is a tribute and love letter to these graceful, soaring birds, but I soon discovered while shooting it that their lives are not nearly as easy or effortless as they look. Their biggest problems come about when they try to compete with humans for fish.

Young pelicans, who don't know they should stay away from fishing piers, often lunge at the bait fish that dangle from lines. Sometimes fishermen leave used hooks and lines on the pier instead of disposing of them. This lethal garbage falls into the bay and wreaks havoc with birds, sea lions, and fish.

If anybody ever tells you that fish hooks, lines, and lead weights will sink or dissolve and do no harm, tell them it's not true! Hooks can wound a pelican from the outside—lodging, say, in its soft pouch—and also from the inside, when swallowed. Even a tiny hook can cause fatal injury, or disable a wing so the bird can't hunt and will starve.

Fishing line can easily entangle a bird's feet, legs, and wings. It can cut deeply into the flesh, causing wounds, and cut off circulation like a tourniquet, such that a bird could lose a limb. In fact, fishhook and fishing-line injuries are the two most common reasons why pelicans end up at wildlife hospitals.

But there's hope!

At a "pelican lovers' lunch" I attended a few months ago in Alameda, biologists and birders discussed ways to monitor and help pelicans along our waterfront. Many harbors along the Pacific coast have already installed fishhook/fishing-line recycling receptacles on their piers, so that fishermen have a place to put their used tackle that keeps it from harming aquatic wildlife. One of the main characters in my film, Dani Nicholson, spearheaded a project at the Port San Luis pier (Avila Beach, central California coast), which has been a huge success. Dani knows first-hand, because she used to rescue a lot more entangled pelicans there.

Until recently, though, our own Port of San Francisco only had two recycling receptacles along the entire waterfront. Cindy Margulis, head of Golden Gate Audubon, said she'd been encouraging the Port to step up to the plate, but without success. I volunteered to contact Supervisor Aaron Peskin, fellow Bay swimmer and pelican fan. Aaron got in touch with the new Port Director, Elaine Forbes, and within a couple of months, nine San Francisco fishing piers had brand-new recycling receptacles. The man who oversaw the project, Tom Carter, head of the Port's maintenance division, is also a Bay swimmer. Tom, Aaron, and I are long-time members of the South End Rowing Club. So I guess it really helps if we all love the Bay!

The benefits go beyond saving pelicans from harm. The metal from the hooks is recycled, and the fishing line is melted down and made into artificial reefs for freshwater fish living under piers, which often lose all vegetation because of fishing.

Recycling receptacles were installed at Hyde Street Harbor, Fisherman's Wharf, Pier 7, Pier 14, Rincon Park, Brannan Street Wharf Park, Aqua Vista Park, Bayview Gateway Park, and Heron's Head Park. They're made of 6-inch plumbing pipe, which can be removed and the line and hooks collected for recycling. A tenth receptacle will be installed at Pier 30/32. My hope is that the project will extend to our Federal fishing piers as well, such as the Warming Hut and Fort Baker.

Each receptacle only cost \$100 to make. The whole project cost \$1,200! "This is truly government at its best: responsive to residents' ideas and pushing cost-effective solutions, all within a relatively short period of time," Aaron Peskin told reporters who showed up at Pier 14 for the press conference.

The next challenge is getting fishermen to actually use the recycling receptacles, and also, to learn how to carefully remove hooks from pelicans' pouches and beaks if they do happen to snag them, rather than just cut the line and let the birds fly off dragging tackle. The Port will translate the English instructions on the receptacles



San Luis Pier is ahead of us on signage, but soon SF piers will have these signs too. PHOTO © DANI NICHOLSON.

into Vietnamese, Spanish, and Chinese. The California Coastal Commission also has outreach materials that will help. Education is key: Not only do we need to keep hooks and lines away from aquatic wildlife, but also fish waste from filleting and cleaning (skeletons, scales, heads, etc). There are Big Belly Solar dumpsters on our piers for that.

WE LOVE PELICANS! Long may these magnificent flying dinosaurs soar along our waterfront. ✂

**Resources:** These sequences from *Pelican Dreams* are free on Vimeo:

"Pelicans Fishing 1" and "Pelicans Fishing 2"

*Pelican Dreams*, the movie, can be seen on Netflix or on DVD ([www.pelicanmedia.org/shop](http://www.pelicanmedia.org/shop))



This bird was rescued by WildCare volunteers at the Fort Baker pier.

PHOTO © JUDY IRVING

## THD's Annual Accomplishments continued from page 10

and Canessa Gallery.

We worked to reinvigorate the THD Oral History project, including taped, transcribed, and online versions of the oral histories of more than twenty area individuals previously prepared by THD members, and we worked with a UK firm to extend the use of THD oral histories to researchers globally.

We celebrated in 2016 the 30th anniversary of the creation of the Telegraph Hill Historic District and the 35th anniversary of the neighborhood-led efforts that successfully saved the Grace Marchant Garden.

## ENGAGE IN AFFAIRS OF THE CITY

We worked to improve planning, zoning, and land use to better protect our neighborhoods, to give North Beach and Telegraph Hill a greater voice, and to protect local businesses.

We engaged actively with the Planning Department and others on draft Urban Design Guidelines, which the Department said, when adopted, would govern design review of new projects throughout the City. Our efforts led to greater outreach to community and neighborhood organizations and significant modification to the draft guidelines.

THD board members undertook detailed review and comment on the Planning Department's rewrite of Article 7 of the Planning Code, which governs neighborhood commercial districts, resulting in the safeguarding of key protections for North Beach.

We worked with the SFMTA on updates to the Residential Parking Permit Program that will affect local A-Sticker residents.

We worked with the Port in their ongoing update to the Waterfront Land Use Plan, and played an active role in protecting the Northeast waterfront.

## STAND UP FOR THE HILL

We worked on behalf of Hill area residents to review and comment on a number of individual development projects and City-proposed actions affecting the Telegraph Hill area.

We advocated for Hill area residents with the City and companies filming movies and commercials on the Hill, seeking to ensure that adequate notice was given and measures were taken to anticipate and address traffic and access issues for affected residents.

THD representatives served on and were actively engaged in community groups that include:

- Coit Tower Working Group
- Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods
- SF Port's Northeast Waterfront Advisory Group, Waterfront Plan Working Group, and Waterfront Plan Advisory Team
- SFMTA/District 3 Street Outreach Team
- SFPD's Central Station's Community Police Advisory Board
- Friends of Washington Square.

✂



# BUONGIORNO, NORTH BEACH!



**We've opened the doors to our brand new North Beach location!**  
**Visit us at the corner of Vallejo at Columbus.**

**NORTH BEACH**  
**627 Vallejo Street**  
(at Columbus Avenue)  
Text or call us at:  
415/200-2215

**SOMA**  
**345 Ninth Street**  
(near Folsom Street)  
Text or call us at:  
415/200-2154

**ROCKRIDGE**  
**5533 College Avenue**  
(a few steps from Rockridge BART)  
Text or call us at:  
510/230-0145

**RUSSIAN HILL**  
**2254 Polk Street**  
(at Green Street)  
Text or call us at:  
415/200-3370

**COLE VALLEY**  
**956 Cole Street**  
(at Parnassus)  
Text or call us at:  
415/319-6705

**DOWNTOWN**  
**70 Fourth Street**  
(between Market and Mission)  
Text or call us at:  
415/200-3444

**Shop with us anytime at [COLEHARDWARE.COM](http://COLEHARDWARE.COM)**

## FIRST QUARTER 2017 BOARD MEETING SUMMARIES

Stan Hayes, President  
[stan.hayes@thd.org](mailto:stan.hayes@thd.org)

### January 10, 2017

Stan Hayes reported to the board on topics that included:

- THD's repeated request that supporters of the proposed Vallejo Street piazza correct the record by removing THD from their list of supporters,
- an update on THD's participation in a joint letter of opposition to the extension of closing time from 2:00 to 4:00 AM at two Broadway strip clubs,
- an update on the status of the 115 Telegraph Hill Boulevard condominium project,
- a board discussion about a request from a U.K. firm for permission to use certain of THD's oral histories,
- a plan to use drones for filming at Coit Tower,
- the creation by Supervisor Peskin of the District 3 Street Outreach Team,
- an update on the proposed Urban Design Guidelines, and
- a discussion of the proposed Pier 29 retail project.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously to adopt a resolution requesting that the SF Planning Department hold a community forum within District 3 for the purpose of presenting the proposed Urban Design Guidelines and responding to citizen input and questions.

At the recommendation of the treasurer, a motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously that additional signers, including the president, financial secretary, and vice-president, be authorized on THD's new federally protected account at B of I Federal Bank.

Other committee reports were made and discussed, including Semaphore (advertising), Art & Culture (upcoming historical images/stories event at Canessa Gallery), Parks, Trees, & Birds (proposed plan for the Washington Square playground), Membership (status of current membership), Waterfront (update on the

Port's update to the Waterfront Land Use Plan), and Parking & Traffic (proposed additional white zone on Union Street, petition opposing the permanent closure of Stockton between Geary and Market).

### February 7, 2017

Stan Hayes reported to the board on topics that included:

- an update on the 115 Telegraph Hill Boulevard condominium project (proposed construction management plan, cement truck staging, recent fire and fire department response),
- a THD letter sent (pursuant to a resolution adopted at the January board meeting) to the SF Planning Department requesting a District meeting on the proposed Urban Design Guidelines,
- a THD letter sent to the Planning Commission commenting on the Planning Department's proposed reorganization of Article 7 of the Planning Code,
- an update on the status of discussions with a U.K. firm seeking permission to use certain of THD's oral histories,
- the inaugural meeting of the District 3 Street Outreach Team, and
- an update on THD's request for removal from the incorrect list of supporters of the proposed Vallejo Street piazza.

A presentation was made by filmmaker Ben Wood describing a proposed project that would project images on Coit Tower. Board questions and discussion ensued.

A Nominating Committee was selected to develop a recommended slate of new officers and board members to be reported to the THD membership for their consideration at the Annual Membership Meeting & Dinner in April. Committee members consisted of board members Don Raichle, Katie Hopkins, Andy Katz, Nancy Shanahan, and Romalyn Schmaltz.

Committee reports were made and discussed, including the Semaphore (successful publication of the Winter 2016 issue, with congratulations from the

board to Carol Verburg, editor, and all who contributed), Communications (status and discussion of updated website), Planning & Zoning (a number of issues, including THD-proposed Article 7 amendments), Budget (status of finances, in the black, nearly \$2,000 positive balance as of January), Social & Program (update on planned events), Art & Culture (upcoming event at Canessa Gallery), Membership (current status of membership), Parks, Trees, & Birds (update on Friends of Washington Square Park activities), and Waterfront (various waterfront issues, including the proposed seawall reconstruction bond, the status of the proposed Pier 29 retail project, and ongoing update to Waterfront Land Use Plan).

### March 14, 2017

Stan Hayes reported to the board on topics that included:

- a status report on the 115 Telegraph Hill Boulevard condominium project,
- an update on the planned release of the next draft of the Urban Design Guidelines,
- a THD letter sent to the SF Planning Department regarding environmental impact assessment of the planned 88 Broadway affordable housing project,
- an update on the request from a U.K. firm for permission to use certain of THD's oral histories,
- production company plans to film on the Filbert Steps and at Coit Tower,
- an email informing members about an upcoming free weekend at the California Academy of Sciences, and
- a meeting of the District 3 Street Outreach Team.

A presentation was made by Rosie Dilger on behalf of SF Ratepayer Advocate about a rate increase application by Recology. Board questions and discussion ensued.

The Nominating Committee reported back to the board on its successful development of a recommended slate of new officers and board members. Members were thanked for their substantial efforts. The recom-

*continued on page 13*

# SEMAPHORE BULLETIN BOARD

## 2017 NORTH BEACH FESTIVAL

10 am to 6 pm Saturday & Sunday, June 17-18  
Grant Avenue and Columbus Avenue

This year's Festival will feature over 125 arts and crafts booths (including some of our Semaphore contributors!), gourmet food booths, two live-entertainment stages, Italian street painting, beverage gardens, a kids' chalk art area, and blessing of the animals. Admission is FREE.



## NORTH BEACH FIRST FRIDAYS

Stroll down Columbus Avenue on the **first Friday evening of each month** to see what's new in the neighborhood. From **6 to 9 PM** you'll find an open-house welcome at art galleries, boutiques, and local watering holes, as well as pop-ups and cultural events. Remind yourself how much fun it is to live in such a vibrant corner of the world by rediscovering the thriving local art scene while you support the creative community behind it. Events vary from month to month, so check the North Beach First Fridays website, Facebook page, and Twitter feed for the latest openings, closings, and events.

**North Beach First Friday** on June 2  
5-9 PM at Grey City Gallery & Ashcroft Studio  
250 Columbus, #202, at Saroyan Alley  
Blaine Ellis — Photography  
Elizabeth Ashcroft — Drawing, Mixed Media & Altered Books  
[greycitygallery.com](http://greycitygallery.com)



## Live Worms Gallery

The June Group Show - June 16-18  
Reception Friday the 16th, 6-9:30, Saturday & Sunday, 10-6  
1345 Grant Ave. at Green/Vallejo  
Dennis Hearne, Barbara Wyeth, Elizabeth Ashcroft, Tisha Kenny and more!



## COFFEE AND ENCOURAGEMENT

Join us **every Friday at Caffe Roma** (526 Columbus Ave) from **2-3 PM** for coffee and free encouragement. This is a time where individuals from our neighborhood come together and share encouraging things and also request encouragement. In a world of negativity, why not speak out the positive? If you have any questions about this group feel free to contact [Northbeachconnect@gmail.com](mailto:Northbeachconnect@gmail.com)



## NOONTIME CONCERTS

"San Francisco's Musical Lunch Break"  
FREE classical performances by outstanding local and international artists  
Every Tuesday, 12:30-1:15 (approximately)  
Old St. Mary's Cathedral, corner of California and Grant  
Admission is free; please make a \$5 donation if you can.  
<http://noontimeconcerts.org/>



## CITY LIGHTS BOOKSTORE

at 261 Columbus Ave. hosts frequent readings & discussions on all subjects from local and international authors. Our events this May and June include poetry readings, authors celebrating their new novels, discussions about technology, and much more.

Highlights include:  
**Tuesday, May 23, 7 PM** China Miéville discussing his new book, *October: The Story of Russian Revolution*, published by Verso Books.

**Thursday, May 25, 7 PM** Madison Smartt Bell celebrating the release of his new novel, *Behind the Moon*, published by City Lights.

**Thursday, June 29, 7 PM** Anastasia Aukeman in discussion with Deborah Treisman, and moderated by Paul Yamazaki, about the works of Bruce Conner & Walter Hopps. They will explore two enigmatic and influential figures in the world of art and how their work intersected via art creation and curation.

Also in May and June appearances by Finn Brunton, Dodie Bellamy, Kevin Killian, Laleh Khadivi, and Achy Obejas.

All events are free and open to the public.  
For more information, call 415-362-8193 or visit our website: [citylights.com](http://citylights.com)



## HELP(ful people) WANTED

NEXT Village SF is a local community of volunteers helping seniors as they age in place, and reducing isolation by hosting a variety of cultural, educational, and social events. We've been growing these past few years, and with that growth comes a need for more leadership, organizational input, and support. How you serve is up to you. Your skills have a place here. Serve on a programming committee, help with a fundraiser, join the board, and/or be a liaison to the organizations you belong to. If being part of a Village intrigues you, please contact Jacqueline at [jjones@nextvillagesf.org](mailto:jjones@nextvillagesf.org) or 415-888-2868.



**Find current NORTH BEACH NEWS & EVENTS at**  
<http://sf4all.org/north-beach/>



## FREE JOB SEARCH MEETINGS

that can jumpstart your job search or get you out of the career doldrums  
Sponsored by the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, The Job Forum provides job search networking and career support to professional job seekers in the San Francisco Bay Area.

**The Job Forum**  
235 Montgomery St., Mezzanine conference room  
**Every Wednesday evening, 6:30-8:30**  
[thejobforum.org](http://thejobforum.org)  
Free for job seekers



## NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

North Beach Citizens welcomes volunteers and donations!  
We are a community based non-profit organization that utilizes the strength of the neighborhood to effectively address the needs of homeless and low-income citizens through an innovative collaboration of residents, merchants, police, and service providers.

If you haven't stopped by lately, come visit our new headquarters at 1034 Kearny.

For hours, directions, and all other information:  
<http://www.northbeachcitizens.org/>  
(415) 772-0918



## GROW YOUR COMFORT ZONE

Ever considered helping the homeless in a safe and friendly environment? Why not join us for one of our monthly dinners at SS. Peter and Paul Church? Dinners are held at **5 PM the final Sunday of each month**. Volunteers are asked to arrive by 3:30, and we also suggest you contact us first to let us know you are planning to help.

Email or call Marc Bruno, 415-421-0809 (Church), or,  
[marcabruno@yahoo.com](mailto:marcabruno@yahoo.com).

Thanks for all you do for those in need!



## HELP BEAUTIFY AND PROTECT THE CHARACTER OF TELEGRAPH HILL

Please consider making a lasting commitment to the neighborhood you love. Include Telegraph Hill Dwellers Gift Planning Project in your estate planning.

Contact THD for more information: [president@thd.org](mailto:president@thd.org)

## First Quarter Board Report

*continued from page 12*

mended slate will be mailed to all THD members in advance of April's Annual Membership & Dinner.

Other committee reports were made and discussed, including Semaphore (March 25 deadline for the Spring 2017 issue), Communications (website posting of old Semaphore issues, links to be added to online oral histories), Planning & Zoning (a number of topics

including neighborhood walking tours, Article 7 update including extraction of North Beach items for separate adoption, filing of Julius Castle conditional use authorization), Budget (finances continued to be in the black, just over \$1,000 positive balance year-to-date through February), Social & Program (upcoming Spring Mixer at Belle Cora), Membership (current status of mem-

bership), Parks, Trees, & Birds (update on proposed Washington Square playground design, activities of Friends of Washington Square), Transportation & Parking (update on status of issues), and Waterfront (status of Pier 29 retail project, update on Waterfront Land Use Plan Update's Land Use Subcommittee). ✂



# EMERGENCY & NON-EMERGENCY SERVICES

## EMERGENCY: 911

(ALL 7 digit phone numbers now must be pre-fixed with 1-415)

Non-Emergency: 553-0123

Customer Service Center: 311

Central Station: 315-2400

Captain David Lazar 315-2480  
David.Lazar@sfgov.org

Lt. Valerie Matthews – Investigations  
315-2400 Valerie.Matthews@sfgov.org

Lt. Molly Pengel (Days) 315-2400  
Molly.Pengel@sfgov.org

Lt. Jason Sawyer (Days) 315-2400  
Jason.Sawyer@sfgov.org

Lt. Jody Kato (Nights) 315-2400  
Jody.Kato@sfgov.org

Acting Lt. Thomas Haymond (Nights)  
315-2400 Thomas.Haymond@sfgov.org

Anonymous Tip-Line 392-2623

S.A.F.E. 553-1984

Website: [www.centralpolicestation.org](http://www.centralpolicestation.org)

SFPD Tip Line: 575-4444

Chinese Tip Line: 315-2435

Text a Tip: 847411 (Tip 411)

Blessing Scam Hotline: 553-9219

Graffiti Abatement: 850-6951

Central Events: 315-2446 —  
Sergeant Francis Feliciano

Central Permits/ Code Abatement: 315-2423  
— Officer Steve Matthias

Deputy City Attorney: 554-3820 —  
Jill Cannon

Dept. of Parking & Traffic: 553-1943

DPW Dispatch 695-2020

Homeless Issues: 315-2400 —  
Officer Eric Caracciolo & Damien Fahey

Foot Beat Sergeant: 315-2440 —  
Sergeant Patrick Tobin

Chinatown Beat: 315-2400/628-400-1888 —  
Officers Howard Chu, Sam Yuen, David On

Union Square Beat: 315-2400/857-5428 —  
Officers Jim Horan, Robert Kerrigan, Minh Du, Jared Monroe

Fisherman’s Wharf Beat: 315-2400/850-5607  
— Officers Nicholas Stewart, Wallace Kresley, Christopher Sabella, Kevin Gil

North Beach Beat: 315-2400 — Officers Kevin Worrell, Michael Amoroso, Mark Alvarez, John Torrise

Ping Yuen: 315-2400/582-6689 — Officers Mark Milligan, Tina To, Jonathan Sylvester, Vanessa Johnson



PIAZZA  
RISTORANTE ITALIANO

659 Columbus Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94133  
Tel: 1 415.397.7355  
Fax: 1 415.397.7357

PELLEGRINI

[www.piazzapellegrini.com](http://www.piazzapellegrini.com)

Phone: 415-398-3181 [www.sottomaresf.com](http://www.sottomaresf.com)

**SOTTO MARE**  
OYSTERIA & SEAFOOD

“The Best Damn Cioppino!”


Seafood • Pasta • Fish Market • Banquet Room for up to 30 Guests

In San Francisco’s “Little Italy”  
552 Green Street (between Columbus & Grant)  
North Beach, San Francisco, CA 94133

**WILLIAM STOUT**  
ARCHITECTURAL  
BOOKS

804 Montgomery St.  
San Francisco, CA  
(415) 391-6757

THE FINE ART OF  
PICTURE FRAMING



[WWW.CADRE-SF.COM](http://WWW.CADRE-SF.COM)  
(415) 296-0400  
301 UNION ST. AT MONTGOMERY

MENTION “**THE SEMAPHORE**”  
AND GET **10% OFF** ON  
ALL CUSTOM FRAMING!

MOVE WITH  
**EASE**

1441 Grant Ave  
415.398.4425  
[www.bluesparrowpilates.com](http://www.bluesparrowpilates.com)



BLUE SPARROW  
PILATES

**N**  
COURAGE

IN A WORLD OF NEGATIVITY,  
WHY NOT SPEAK OUT THE POSITIVE?

FRIDAYS | 2-3PM | CAFFE ROMA  
CONTACT: [NORTHBEACHCONNECT@GMAIL.COM](mailto:NORTHBEACHCONNECT@GMAIL.COM)



CELEBRATING 5 YEARS IN NORTH BEACH!



Little Vine  
CHEESE, WINE & PROVISIONS

1541 GRANT AVE BETWEEN UNION & FILBERT



**Al's attire**  
HAND MADE  
SAN FRANCISCO

**Shoe Restoration**  
Select your designs, fabric, lining, buttons,  
details . . . Ready for fitting in about 3 to 6 weeks

[www.homepage.mac.com/alsattire](http://www.homepage.mac.com/alsattire)  
1300 Grant Avenue • 415.693.9900

alsattire@earthlink.net

Breakfast  
& Lunch  
7:30 to 2:30 —  
this is 7 days a  
week.

**PAT'S  
CAFÉ**

**2330 Taylor Street  
San Francisco, CA 94133  
415-776-8735**

**AWESOME BREAKFASTS & LUNCHES**



**Joan E. Glick** ACSM, ACE, NASM  
Certified Personal Trainer & Fitness Coach

2054 Powell Street  
San Francisco, CA 94133  
415.860.1496  
info@fitfortheages.com  
fitfortheages.com    Yoga Classes Too



**TREASURER'S  
REPORT**

by Joe Luttrell  
treasurer@thd.org

THD operates on a fiscal year (rather than a calendar year), from April 1 to March 31. All THD board members and officers are volunteers. They may receive reimbursement for expenses incurred on behalf of THD, but not otherwise. A proposed budget was submitted to the Board at its May 2016 meeting, discussed then, and unanimously adopted. It proposed essentially a break-even year. The basic assumptions in the budget are that dues and revenues will remain constant, as will costs for the Semaphore, and that income and expense for social and arts and culture events will be equal. This budget has in fact been met, and even bettered, as THD this fiscal year has achieved revenues exceeding expenses by some \$2,600 on total revenues of approximately \$23,000.


## FRIENDS OF WASHINGTON SQUARE

Meet on the 2nd Tuesday every month, with work parties in the Square every quarter.  
See website for times, dates, locations.

*[www.friendsofwashingtonsquare.com](http://www.friendsofwashingtonsquare.com)*

ESPRESSO    CAPPUCCINO    VINO    PANINI

**CAFFÈ GRECO**



423 Columbus Ave.  
San Francisco, CA 94133  
415-397-6261

Hanna & Sandy Suleiman

HAND MADE PASTA FRESH  
HOT PIAZZA SANDWICHES  
PASTA READY TO GO

SLICED MEATS / SHOP  
IMPORTED CHEESES  
GOURMET GROCERY STORE



716 COLUMBUS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94134  
415-712-8874

**THD COMMITTEES NEED YOU**  
Get involved in our neighborhood and make a difference!  
Join a THD committee and help keep the Hill a special place to live.

Please note that by the time you read this, many THD officers and committee heads will have changed as of the April 24 Annual Meeting. New members are especially welcome as our committees start a new fiscal year!

### STANDING COMMITTEES

Art & Culture: Romalyn Schmaltz (Chair) Contact Romalyn at romalyn.schmaltz@thd.org  
Budget: Joe Luttrell (Chair) Contact Joe at joe.luttrell@thd.org  
Membership: Melissa Mountain (Chair) Contact Melissa at THDmembership@gmail.com  
Oral History Project: TBD  
Parking/Transportation/Subway: Michael Pedroni and Howard Wong  
Contact Michael at michael.pedroni@thd.org or Howard at howard.wong@thd.org  
Parks, Trees, & Birds: Carlo Arreglo & Judy Irving (Co-Chairs)  
Contact Carlo at carlo.arreglo@thd.org or Judy at judy.irving@thd.org  
Planning & Zoning: Mary Lipian (Chair) Contact Mary at mary.lipian@thd.org  
Semaphore: Judy Irving, Julie Jaycox, Carol Verburg, Contact: semaphore@thd.org  
Social & Program: Marilee Gaffney (Chair) Contact Marilee at marilee.gaffney@thd.org  
Waterfront: Jon Golinger (Chair) Contact Jon at jon.golinger@thd.org

**PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE MEETS last Thursdays.**  
Call for time and location. 986-7070, 563-3494, or 391-5652.

### LIAISONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Central Police District Community Advisory Board: Daryl Babbitt  
Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods: Paul Webber  
Friends of Washington Square Liaison: Marilee Gaffney  
Neighborhood Network Liaison: Gerry Crowley  
Northeast Waterfront Advisory Group Member: Jon Golinger



## TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS

Voice Mail: (415) 843-1011. Web Site: [www.thd.org](http://www.thd.org)  
P.O. Box 330159 • San Francisco, CA 94133

### THD BOARD OFFICERS 2015-2016

President: Stan Hayes — stan.hayes@thd.org  
Vice-President: Judy Irving — judy.irving@thd.org  
Recording Secretary: Mary Lipian — mary.lipian@thd.org  
Corresponding Secretary: Mary Ann Scanlon-Stone — maryann.scanlon@thd.org  
Treasurer: Joe Luttrell — joe.luttrell@thd.org  
Financial Secretary: Melissa Mountain — melissa.mountain@thd.org  
Historian: Nancy Shanahan — nancy.shanahan@thd.org  
Immediate Past President: Vedica Puri — vedica.puri@thd.org  
Editor of the Semaphore: Carol Verburg — semaphore@thd.org

### DIRECTORS

#### Term: 2016-2017

Marilee Gaffney  
Andy Katz  
Romalyn Schmaltz  
Katie Hopkins

#### Term: 2016-2018

Paul Webber  
Robert Woehrle  
Natalie Parker  
Don Raichle



## WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS!

**There's no better way to be connected to your neighborhood and be a voice of the hill than by joining Telegraph Hill Dwellers, today.**

Join at *THD.org*. If you'd prefer to have a brochure and sign-up form mailed to you, please send an email to *membership@thd.org*. Already a member? Give one as a gift!

#### Membership includes:

- A one-year subscription to news & events via email and a quarterly paper, *The Semaphore*.
- Opportunities to be active in your community. Your passion likely aligns to one of many committees.
- Social and Art & Culture events throughout the year – attend and contribute!

#### Annual Dues:

Individuals..... \$35  
Households..... \$50  
Seniors (65 and older)..... \$25  
Senior Households..... \$40

Join now or give the gift of membership at *THD.org* or email *membership@thd.org*.





TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS  
P. O. Box 330159  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94133



# THE SEMAPHORE

#217 Spring 2017

## FEATURES

- Seeking Shelter in North Beach, 1950s–1970s:  
The Impossibility of Owning Anything . . . . . 1
- Artists Burnish Skills at Metalworks SF . . . . . 4
- Telegraph Hill Dwellers Outstanding Contributions  
to the Hill 2017: Mary Etta Moose . . . . . 6
- San Francisco's Legacy Business Program . . . . . 8

- THD Accomplishments This Past Year  
May 2016 – April 2017 . . . . . 10
- San Francisco Loves Our Pelicans . . . . . 11
- Bulletin Board . . . . . 13
- Emergency & Non-Emergency Services . . . . . 14

## COLUMNS

- President's Corner . . . . . 2
- D3 Supervisor Report . . . . . 3
- Art & Culture Report . . . . . 5
- Waterfront Committee Report . . . . . 7
- Social & Program Committee Report . . . . . 10
- First Quarter Board Meeting Summaries . . . . . 12

## THD BUSINESS

- Treasurer's Report . . . . . 15
- Board of Directors . . . . . 15
- THD Committees . . . . . 15
- Become a Member. . . . . 15
- Cover . . . SPECS: Graphite Drawing by Elizabeth Ashcroft

## SEMAPHORE STAFF

EDITOR: CAROL VERBURG — [semaphore@thd.org](mailto:semaphore@thd.org)  
TYPESETTING/DESIGN: CHRIS CARLSSON — [carlsson.chris@gmail.com](mailto:carlsson.chris@gmail.com)

AD SALES: ANDY KATZ — [andy.katz@thd.org](mailto:andy.katz@thd.org)  
BUSINESS MANAGER: MELISSA MOUNTAIN — [melissa.mountain@thd.org](mailto:melissa.mountain@thd.org)

The Semaphore is a publication of the Telegraph Hill Dwellers for its members. Articles, except for the summary of Board of Directors' Motions, do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Association or its officers, but are the opinions of the writers of the individually copyrighted articles. The Association can take no responsibility for their content. No part of this membership publication may be reprinted or disseminated without permission in writing. © 2017.

